10/561249 APPROCUPET/PTO 19 DEC 2009

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Carl Ludwig WILKENING et al.

Art Unit:

To Be Assigned

Appln. No.: To Be Assigned

Examiner:

To Be Assigned

Filed:

Concurrently

Confirmation No.:

To Be Assigned

For:

Improved Methods for Producing

Ethanol and Methane from Biomass

Atty. Docket:

19003.003

## **Preliminary Amendment**

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

With regard to the above-referenced application, Applicants submit the following amendment and remarks. Applicants respectfully request entry of the present amendment prior to examination on the merits.

In the event that extensions of time beyond those petitioned for herewith are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe any additional fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, authorization to charge such fees is given in the accompanying transmittal letter.